

CONFIDENTIAL

58

132

EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

OCI #0730/68

17 June 1968

Yugoslavs Question East German Berlin Visa Policy

The Ljubljana newspaper, Delo, on 14 June criticized the introduction by the GDR of visa requirements in traffic between West Germany and West Berlin. According to Delo the GDR's arguments for its new policy are unconvincing since the immediate danger from West German revanchism does not justify such measures. So far, the Belgrade press had reported on the new GDR policy without comment. The Delo article appeared at the end of West German Foreign Minister Brandt's first official visit to Yugoslavia. Belgrade's desire to cater to East German sensibilities probably was overridden by the need for increased economic relations with Bonn, already an important trading partner.

25X1

25X1

French Violate Berlin Access Procedures

An Air France DC-8 to Berlin from Palma on 17 June, entered the south corridor without flight clearance at an altitude of about 26,000 feet. Allied carriers servicing West Berlin rarely exceed the 10,000 foot ceiling which the Soviets have arbitrarily set as the maximum altitude, and which the Allies generally adhere to. Why the DC-8 entered at such a height without flight clearance is not clear but Berlin air traffic control managed to turn the plane around after it was about 40 miles inside the corridor and head it back to the Federal Republic.

While turning around the DC-8 overflowed 10 to 15 miles of GDR territory outside the corridor and was intercepted during this violation by three MIG's. The French plane flew north and entered the central corridor at an altitude of 7,500 feet as per instructions from Berlin but continued to be "escorted" by MIG's which criss-crossed its path until it landed at Tegel. The MIG's followed it to within 3 or 4 miles of the airfield and in so doing overflowed West Berlin at an altitude of approximately 1,000 feet.

This is the second French-Soviet incident in the past few days. Last week a French military convoy was stopped at the Soviet checkpoint and detained for more than an hour until

GROUP I  
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

the French convoy commander ordered his troops to dismount for headcount. The French may have goofed in that their convoy was in the "gray area" between dismountable and non-dismountable size. Both incidents probably were inadvertent. 25X1 25X1

#### Hungarian Leaders to Visit Moscow

Party boss Kadar will head a party-government delegation for an "official friendly visit" to the USSR at the end of June, according to Moscow Radio. Hungary's warm support for the new Czechoslovak regime may be the main topic of conversation, especially because the Soviets are suspicious of Prague's goals. Other related topics may be Hungary's attitude toward diplomatic relations with West Germany and the effects of planned coordination of Hungary's and Czechoslovakia's economic reforms. 25X1

#### Rumanian Party Central Committee May Meet This Week

Rumors circulating in diplomatic circles in Bucharest state that the party central committee will meet this week to discuss ideological questions. According to the Czechoslovak news agency, the same sources say that the role of Gheorghiu-Dej in illegal acts of the 1950's will be highlighted and further rehabilitations will be disclosed.

The time is ripe for another plenum, and additional rehabilitations seem likely as party chief Ceausescu continues to bolster his position. During the nearly seven weeks, which have elapsed since the last plenum, party spokesmen have contrasted the "democratic" aspects of current party life with the Dej era. They have struck particularly hard at former Minister of Interior, Alexandru Draghici, who was ousted from all party positions last April. These attacks on Draghici suggest that the party may now call for court action against him. 25X1

#### Eastern European Governments Interested in Joining the IMF

Current negotiations between the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and several Eastern European governments are proceeding well.

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

Rumania and Czechoslovakia are particularly interested in joining the IMF, with Poland and Hungary being close followers. Accordingly, the visit to Bucharest during 3-5 July of Mssrs. Schweitzer and McNamara on the occasion of the Joint Meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Committee for Programme and Development is expected to yield practical results. It is first necessary to join the IMF before a nation may join the World Bank. Convertible currency is not a sine qua non of membership in the IMF.

Rumania and Czechoslovakia have been interested in joining the IMF for some time. On the other hand, the Fund seems quite eager to improve its image in the "third world" by admitting Eastern European nations, if only to remove the stigma of solely representing "Yankee capitalism" and "Wall Street." [REDACTED]

25X1

#### US Weighs Withdrawal From Poznan Fair Over North Korean Display

The North Korean propaganda exhibit featuring the Pueblo incident was still in place at the Poznan Fair on 15 June [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Although Polish officials say that discussions with the North Koreans are currently underway, and that Foreign Trade Minister Trampczynski is now in Poznan looking into the matter, the US Embassy plans a protest to the Foreign Ministry today.

25X1  
25X1

During initial US protests to the Fair management and to Foreign Trade Ministry officials, the embassy made clear that the US exhibit might be closed if the North Korean display were not removed by COB 14 June. The intent now is to wait until COB 17 June, and tentatively to close the US exhibit on 18 June if the North Koreans do not remove their display. Permanent closing of the US pavilion would be delayed until COB 19 June, however. The two-week annual Fair is scheduled to end on 23 June.

According to the State Department, the US views the matter seriously, and fully intends to close the US exhibit, now that the main feature of exhibit--a successful four-day management seminar--is over. [REDACTED]

25X1  
25X1

NOTE: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ABOVE REPRESENT  
ONLY THE ANALYSIS OF THE EE DIVISION

CONFIDENTIAL